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1875

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

OF THE

MARYLAND AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE,

TO THE

BOARD OF TRUSTEES,

AT THEIR

QUARTERLY MEETING,

DECEMBER 8th, 1875.

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BALTIMORE:

PRINTED AT THE OFFICE OF THE MARYLAND FARMER.

1875.

REPORT.

MARYLAND AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE,
December 8, 1875.

To the Board of Trustees:

GENTLEMEN:—I beg leave to lay before you the following Report, in accordance with the By-Laws of the Institution:

The Session commenced on the 20th day of September of the present year, and there are now 47 students actually in attendance, though 52 have registered.

There are three Professors attached to the College, viz: Parker, Professor of Mathematics; Worthington, Professor of English Literature; and Jones, Professor of Agriculture; and two Assistant Professors, viz: Clarkson, Professor of Natural Sciences and Chemistry; and Nelson, Professor of applied Mathematics. The amount pledged by the College for the pay of these gentlemen is $5,200 for the scholastic year.

The Preparatory Department having been broken up, most of the students are entered in the Freshman Class. There are five in the Sophomore, and three in the Senior Class. There were none offering for the Junior Class.

The School is under a military organization, and all students are required to wear a uniform. One of the Professors is the "officer in charge," and one of the Company officers the "officer of the day," daily. Sections are formed and marched to their recitations under a "Section Leader," who is the student standing highest in his class for the month.

I append, marked A, a paper showing our daily routine, and another, marked B, showing the daily programme of studies.

Referring to the latter, it will be seen that the Senior Class are studying Astronomy, Analytical Geometry, Composition, Elocution, History of Civilization, Mental Philosophy, Applied

Chemistry, Assays and Mineralogy, and practical Agriculture. After this month, one member of this class will resume German, and another Latin. The gentlemen composing this class are old students of the College, and look forward to taking a degree.

The Sophomore Class are studying Plain and Spherical Trigonometry, Mensuration, Surveying, Algebra, Rhetoric, Elocution, History of England, Analytical Chemistry, Agricultural Botany, (how crops feed,) Latin and Practical Agriculture.

The Freshman Class are studying Arithmetic, Algebra, Grammar, Geography, Spelling, Writing, History of the United States, Natural Philosophy, Agricultural Botany, (how plants grow,) Elementary Chemistry and Latin.

While *all* the classes are studying branches relating to Agriculture, such as Botany, Chemistry, &c., there is also a special one in practical agriculture, consisting of all the members of the Senior and Sophomore Classes, and one from the Freshman.

The members of this class are taken over the farm and practically instructed in the care of sheep and cattle, making roads and bridges, embankments, &c., draining lands, and the winter care of a farm.

They have been sent to the Agricultural Department in Washington under their Instructor, and it is intended to send them in as often as the Professor finds necessary to illustrate his lectures.

Lectures on subjects relating to Agriculture have been delivered by Professors Tenry and Uhler, and will be continued monthly throughout the session.

When the spring opens and farming operations commence, all classes will be taken into the field and practical labor encouraged.

The work done in the fall, such as threshing out grain with a machine, putting in wheat, &c., was witnessed by the entire School, and the manner of putting in the grain and the use of the drill fully explained to all.

It is my intention to add "Physical Geography" to the curriculum.

Prayers are held daily at 7.30 A. M., and divine service every

Sunday is held by Rev. Mr. Williams, of Bladensburg. Students of the Roman Catholic persuasion are allowed and encouraged to attend their services in Washington.

Monthly Reports are sent parents; and weekly Reports are posted every Saturday for the benefit of the students.

Professor Clarkson, being a graduate of medicine, attends the sick in ordinary cases, and is furnished with a medicine-chest at the expense of the College.

The bath-room has been put in order, and a certain number of students are permitted to use it daily.

The household affairs are in charge of Mrs. Ann Carver, who manages them with economy and skill.

We have a "*Fire Brigade*," which embraces in its organization, not only the students, but every one belonging to the College and Farm.

For further information on any of the above points, I refer the Board to the Order Book which is laid before them, and I respectfully invite an examination of the College and all appertaining to it.

From the farm, we have this year 200 barrels of corn, 170 bushels of rye, 10 or 15 tons of hay, 10 tons of rye-straw, and winter vegetables in great abundance--with the exception of potatoes which were destroyed by the bug.

On account of the rain a good deal of the rye was lost and the straw damaged.

We expect to sell, or to feed to extra stock, some 75 barrels of corn. The rye is not sold, but is in the granary in good order. We have an ample supply of fodder for the stock on hand.

Some of the hay we expect to sell.

We have added two Devon milch cows, and five full-blooded Cotswold sheep to our stock.

We have now all the milk we need, and hope to add a dairy to the farm to supply us with butter.

We will put up 2,600 lbs. of Bacon.

I do not propose putting in large crops of grain for the present. It seems to me that we should make our farm an *experimental* one *now*; eventually it will be a model one, I hope.

For further information on this subject I refer you to the Professor of Agriculture, who is also the Farm Manager.

The Register will lay before you a Report showing the condition of the finances.

Opening in September with no money other than students fees, we have so far paid all our expenses, and, as far as I can see, can continue to do so. We have had to purchase bed-room and dining room furniture, books and other articles too numerous to mention. We have had glazing, plumber's work and gas fitting to pay for; pumps to put in barn-yard, &c. It is only by referring to the vouchers of the Register that I could mention the many things we have had to purchase.

I have received but $100 of the money left in the hands of the Executive Committee. From the students fees, I have paid more than $600 of the old debt.

If nothing unfavorable occurs we can devote most, if not all, of the $6,000 coming to us from the State in February to the settlement of the old claims upon the College. *The total debt is now a trifle over $9,000, as you will see from the paper marked C, and appended to this Report.

As the $3,000 due us in January was anticipated by the Board, it appears that we have devoted $9,000 to the payment of old debts in the first session of my administration.

The legacy of $1,000 left the College by the late Dr. Mercer, has been paid by the Executors, and deposited in bank.

Of the sums due from former students, we have been able to collect but $40.

We received in October $330, interest due us by the State on $11,000; payable in October and April.

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*NOTE.—The debt of the College, as shown by the paper Marked C, is $9,109.40. It must be borne in mind, however, that as we have a note in bank for $3,000, [to be taken up with the $3,000 due us in January], *the debt of the College at the beginning of my administration was twelve thousand dollars.*

The different departments of the College are badly supplie with books and instruments, and there are some things connecte with the farm that should be attended to at once. For instanc the Rossburg House should be put in order and prepared to r ceive at least two families; until that is done the Professors' fam ilies must live in the college building, which is very objectionabl

I submit an estimate as follows:

For the College.

Department of English	$ 150
Department of Agriculture	350
Department of Natural Philosophy and Chemistry	1,000
Matron's Department	500
College Building	1,000
	$3,000

For the Farm.

Reparing Rossburg House	$1,000
Quarters for Laborers	1,000
Agricultural Implements	500
Additions to Stock	700
Fencing	300
	$3,500
Total	$6,500

I have thus far confined myself to a simple statement of facts I deem it unnecessary to expatiate upon them.

It is possible to carry on the College and farm as at present and devote most of the revenue drawn from the United State Government and State to the payment of old debts. At this rat the College will be free of debt, say by September next. In th meantime no additions can be made to the College or Farm. I is for you, gentlemen, to decide whether the next Legislatur shall be asked for an additional appropriation or not.

What has been done here since September has been under many difficulties, and has required industry, zeal, and I may say, self-denial on the part of the Faculty assisting me. Much remains to be done.

In conclusion, I will say that it shall be my endeavor to manage this Institution in accordance with chapter 178, laws of 1865, *especially* "to teach such branches of learning as are related to Agriculture and the Mechanic Arts, without excluding other scientific and classical studies, and including military tactics."

The *standard* of the College should not be too high. It should be accessible to all, and, in point of fact, should be a connecting link between the Public Grammar Schools of the State and the Johns Hopkins University.

The health of the students has been good, and their conduct satisfactory.

I am, respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. H. PARKER,

President.

"A"

DAILY ROUTINE.

7.00 A. M.—Bell rings to rise.
7.30 " " " breakfast.
8.15 " " first recitation.
9.00 " " second recitation.
10.00 " " third recitation.
11.00 " " fourth recitation.
11.50 " " close of A. M. recitations.
12.00 " " military exercises.
12.40 P. M. " preparatory—dinner.
1.00 " " dinner.
2.00 " " first P. M. recitation.
3.00 " " second P. M. recitation.
4.00 " " close of exercises.
5.30 " " preparatory—supper.
6.00 " " supper.
7.00 " " roll call—study hours.
9.30 " " close of study hours.
10.00 " " taps—lights out.

SUNDAY.

7.30 A. M.—Bell rings to rise.
8.00 " " breakfast.
10.30 " " inspection.
12.30 " " preparatory—dinner.
1.00 " " dinner.
5.30 " " preparatory—supper.
6.00 " " supper.
7.00 " " divine service.
9.30 " " close of study hours.
10.00 " " taps—lights out.

"B".

PROGRAMME OF STUDIES.

RECITATIONS.

8.15 A. M.—*Senior Class*—Mental Philosophy, M. & F.; History of Civilization, Tu. & Ths.; Composition and Elocution, Wednesdays.

" *Soph. Class*—Trigonometry, daily.

" *2d Sec. Freshman*—Arithmetic, daily.

" *3d Sec. Freshman*—Writing, daily.

9.00 A. M.—*Soph. Class*—Chemistry, M., W. & F.; Agricultural Botany, Tuesdays and Thursdays.

" *1st Sec. Freshman*—Arithmetic, daily.

" *2d Sec. Freshman*—Grammar, daily; Geography, Tus. & Ths.; Spelling, M., W. & F.; and Composition and Reading, Wednesdays.

" *3d Sec. Freshman*—Arithmetic, daily.

10.00 A. M.—*Senior Class*—Analyt. Geometry, daily.

" *1st Sec. Freshman*—Grammar, Reading and Composition, daily.

" *2d Sec. Freshman*—Natural Philosophy, M., W. & F.; Chemistry. Tu. & Ths.

11.00 A. M.—*Senior Class*—Astronomy, M., W. & F.

" *Special Class*—Algebra, Tu. and Th.

" *1st Sec. Freshman*—Geography and Spelling, daily.

" *3d Sec. Freshman*—Natural Philosophy, M., W. & F.; Botany, Tu. and Th.

12.00 A. M.—Military Exercises, daily.

"B"—Continued.

2.00 P. M.—*Senior Class*—Chemistry, (applied,) M., W. F.; & Assays and Mineralogy, Tu. and Ths.

" *Soph. Class*—Rhetoric, M., W. & F.; History of England, Tu. and Ths.; Composition and Elocution, Weds.

" *2d Sec. Freshman*—Writing, daily.

" *3d Sec. Freshman*—Grammar, M., W. & F.; Geography, Tu. and Th.; Spelling, Composition and Reading, M., W. & F.

" *Special Class*—History of the United States, daily.

3.00 P. M.—*1st Sec. Freshman*—Mathematics, daily.

" *Soph. Class*—Latin, M., W. & F.

" 2d *Sec. Freshman*—Latin, daily.

" *3d Sec. Freshman*—Latin, daily.

" *Agricultural Class*—Agriculture, Tu. and Th.

Exercises close at 4 P. M.

NOTE.—French and German commenced January 1st.

"C"

Total debt of College, December 8th, 1875, $9,100.40.

N. B. WORTHINGTON,
R. E. NELSON,
Committee.

NOTE.—This is exclusive of the note for $3,000 to be taken up in January.